

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

[0072] A rotator switch including more tandem buffers than inputs is disclosed. An input data conditioner formats data to be transferred from the multiple inputs to the tandem buffers. Excess tandem buffers allow data to be transferred from inputs to tandem buffers at a rate less than the rate at which data arrives at the inputs. Excess capacity of the switch fabric may be used to carry overhead, or slow the rate at which data is transferred to the switch fabric.